

The following information notice can be used in newsletters or mailings to inform other programs about the upcoming change in the WIC infant formula contract.

New Infant Formula Rebate Contract for the Montana WIC Program

The Montana WIC Program will be entering into a new infant formula rebate contract this year effective October 1, 2012. Montana participates with a number of other states in the Western States Contracting Alliance as the state's low population doesn't provide enough leverage to negotiate a worthwhile rebate on infant formula on its own. By joining a group of other states, we can be offered a very good rebate.

Without the infant formula rebate, Montana would not be able to serve the number of current participants. The rebate has been equal to about \$3.6 million per year. We use the money to serve more participants, especially women and children.

Effective October 1, 2012:

- **WIC standard infant formulas will be a combination between Abbott Laboratories and Mead Johnson products.**
 - **WIC will provide the following formulas from Abbott Laboratories as the contract milk-based formulas:**
 - **Similac Advance**
 - **Similac Sensitive**
 - **Similac for Spit-Up**
 - **WIC will provide the following formula from Mead Johnson as the contract soy-based formula:**
 - **Enfamil Prosobee**

Almost all healthy infants can drink a standard infant formula, regardless of brand without having any kind of problem with it. We expect infants currently on an Abbott Laboratories soy-based infant formula (Similac Soy Isomil) to transition successfully to a similar Mead Johnson soy-based infant formula (Enfamil Prosobee).

Local agencies will be provided materials in order to inform the doctors and hospitals in their area and parents and guardians of infants on WIC of this change. In addition, the local agency will be provided information about the Mead Johnson Enfamil Prosobee formula to assist with the transition.

For more information contact Tara Ray at tray@mt.gov or Chris Fogelman at cfogelman@mt.gov or by phone at 1-800-433-4298.